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wherein said fingerprint sensor comprises a light source and an image pickup device.

4 The fingerprint input apparatus defined in Claim 2, wherein said quality evaluation and processing means performs the analysis based on any one of the density of said fingerprint image, a fingerprint display area indicated by said fingerprint image, the shape of ridges indicated by said fingerprint image, and the position of a spiral shape indicated by said fingerprint image.

5 The fingerprint input apparatus defined in Claim 2, wherein said evaluation result display includes light emitting elements for visually displaying said evaluation result.

6 The fingerprint input apparatus defined in Claim 2, wherein said evaluation result display includes a display panel for visually displaying said evaluation result.

7 The fingerprint input apparatus defined in Claim 2, wherein said evaluation result display includes an acoustic device for acoustically displaying said evaluation result.

8 The fingerprint input apparatus defined in Claim 1, wherein said fingerprint sensor comprises a light source and an image pickup device.

9 The fingerprint input apparatus defined in Claim 8, wherein said quality evaluation and processing means

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emitting elements for visually displaying said evaluation result.

15 The fingerprint input apparatus defined in Claim 13,  
wherein said evaluation result display includes an  
5 acoustic device for acoustically displaying said  
evaluation result.

16 The fingerprint input apparatus defined in Claim 13,  
wherein said evaluation result display includes an  
acoustic device for acoustically displaying said  
10 evaluation result.

17 The fingerprint input apparatus defined in Claim 1,  
wherein said evaluation result display includes light  
emitting elements for visually displaying said evaluation  
result.

18 The fingerprint input apparatus defined in Claim 1,  
wherein said evaluation result display includes a display  
panel for visually displaying said evaluation result.

19 The fingerprint input apparatus defined in Claim 1,  
wherein said evaluation result display includes an  
20 acoustic device for acoustically displaying said  
evaluation result.

20 A fingerprint input method comprising the steps of:  
reading a fingerprint and then outputting fingerprint  
image data corresponding to said fingerprint;  
25 analyzing the quality of a fingerprint image

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